



Lonnie Ramati in flight

Randy Bregman

York basketballers reaching for the top

By Bruce Gates

While there's still a lot of basketball to be played, right now the York Yeomen are the best team in Canada.

But Coach Bob Bain, while undoubtedly proud of his team, is not outwardly enthusiastic about being ranked number one by the CIAU at this stage. Says he: "It's good publicity. It shows we've come a long way, but we haven't won anything. Being ranked number one isn't that meaningful unless we win at the end of the season."

Well, that's exactly what the Yeomen are going to do, says their big centre, Lonnie Ramati. And when he talks, you listen. Predicts the 6 ft. 9 in. Ramati: "I don't think anyone's going to stop us, and unless we screw up at the end we should win it all."

Being ranked number one, however, isn't a ticket to the CIAU national title, as Manitoba found out last year in Halifax.

After being ranked number one all year, the Bisons lost in the opening round of the championship finals. Ramati says they were overrated.

"Manitoba last year was overrated because they weren't tested. They didn't beat Acadia, they didn't beat St. Francis Xavier. We did. And we lost by only two to St. Mary's without me (and teammate Paul Layefsky. Both had law exams that week). We were up by 15 points in that game and should have won it."

But are the Yeomen deserving of the number one spot?

"I don't think we're overrated," Ramati insists. "We're the best team. Just look at our bench! We've got the best 11 men in the country."

Team captain Ted Galka who, along with Ramati, Layefsky and Chris McNeilly, is in his final year with the Yeomen, also sees the

team's depth as one of its main strengths.

"We are a balanced team. We've got our scorers, but the good thing about this team is that we've got guys who can come off the bench and do the job."

In addition to the Yeomen's great depth is the team's capability of playing with machine-like efficiency on the court, using a style of play that can shut down potent offences like St. Mary's.

But the Yeomen machine "is a very personal machine," insists assistant coach Gerry Barker. Indeed, the off-court individuality of these 11 players would make the New York Yankees look homogeneous.

But all these individuals share one common aim: the desire to win. The team has been together for over a year now, and they have tasted the bittersweetness of the national finals, which should make them even stronger.

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Controversy over exam fiasco continues to burn

By Laura Brown

Although the university administration agreed that the final exam for half-course Economics 340.3 was written in a chaotic atmosphere, they have decided against forcing the students to write another and have offered an optional make-up exam.

The class of roughly 100 students had been separated into two rooms for the December 18 exam, with one supervisor rotating between the examination rooms.

According to second year student, Doug Emsley

"When the supervisor left the room to check on the other class, all hell broke loose.... people got out of their seats to exchange answers and some got out their text books, and then it got more and more out of hand and people started yelling out answers."

Emsley said that concentration was impossible because of the noise and after 30 minutes he walked out of the room in disgust, to bring the situation to the attention of the head of the Economics Department, Graeme McKechnie.

With colleague Keith Jerry, Emsley suggested that the only solution was to wipe out the entire exam.

"None of the marks coming out of that exam are valid". Emsley told Excalibur earlier this week. "Between the cheating and the noise the marks are either too high or too low".

When McKechnie failed to satisfy Emsley's request for another compulsory exam, he contacted President H. Ian Macdonald. Expressing his concern with this situation, Macdonald asked Harold Kaplan, Dean of Arts, to investigate the matter. After meeting with McKechnie and the entire Economics Department, the final decision was made to offer an optional make-up exam.

"The poor supervision was stupid and wrong", Kaplan said in an interview this week. "And my main concern was that the

students who tried to perform properly couldn't do so under those circumstances; and I made it very clear to Professor McKechnie and the Economics Department that exams are to be properly supervised and this kind of mess must not happen again".

"But this situation did occur and we had to find a solution which would hurt as few people as possible," he continued.

When receiving word on the final decision, Emsley contacted the *Globe and Mail* and *Excalibur* a week ago Tuesday night. "We gave the administration the benefit of the doubt and told them they could solve this in the university. But the only avenue of appeal we had left was the newspapers," Emsley explained.

Commenting on the decision to make the exam optional rather than compulsory, Kaplan said, "There was no way of finding out who cheated and we could not penalize the entire class for others' misconduct."

Emsley said he does not agree with Kaplan, adding, "All they've come up with is a solution which will please as many people as possible. But they shouldn't be worried about people's feelings and I believe this decision has put the reputation of the economics department on the line."

"It's more than just a matter of a few people cheating", he emphasized., "The university was aware that cheating did occur and that those students who did try to write it honestly couldn't concentrate because of the noise, and yet they aren't taking steps to correct this situation by wiping out an exam which was a farce."

"I don't want to write another exam any more than the next person", Emsley continued, "but a compulsory exam was the only way to make the grades valid".

Although the second exam date has passed, Emsley and Jerry will be submitting an appeal to Senate for a review of the decision.

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Bryon Johnson

A Native Encounter

Two members of the Soaring Eagles Native Dance Troupe in action at Vanier College's Encounter Canada on Tuesday night. The encounter wound up yesterday afternoon, after giving Yorkites a chance to learn about — and from — a people who had a continent stolen from them, but who aren't taking it lying down. See the whole story in next week's Excalibur.

Clash over hiring of Atkinson Dean

By Hugh Westrup

Atkinson College Council and York's Board of Governors are in opposition over the appointment procedure for selecting a new dean to replace Margaret Knittl who retires in June.

The board has rejected a selection proposal drawn up last fall by President Macdonald and the Atkinson council which updates an earlier search plan prepared in 1974 by the council and former President Yolton.

The proposal includes Macdonald's suggestion that he be allowed to appoint a greater number of members on the search committee. However, it deviates from the board's guidelines for dean selection in that it gives the Atkinson electorate (full time faculty, and staff, student and part-time faculty reps) the final decision not Macdonald. The university president is given qualified veto power in consultation with the council over the final list of candidates, but ultimately the electorate chooses.

In December, Macdonald carried the proposal to the board, unsure of, he says what the reaction would be.

"I'm not really surprised at the board's decision," said Macdonald. "I told them (the college council) that the board is strong minded, but I felt an obligation to try."

The Atkinson plan met with opposition from two board sub-committees and was overwhelmingly defeated at the board meeting on January 8.

Michael Koerner, president of Canada Overseas Investments Ltd. and chairman of the board committee on Appointments, Tenure and Promotions suggested that Atkinson's plan was an erosion of the power of the presidency and the board.

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